

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

952

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 0 1 2019

RE: S.B. No. 1027

S.D. 2

Honorable Ronald D. Kouchi
President of the Senate
Thirtieth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2019
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Ways and Means, to which was referred S.B. No. 1027, S.D. 1, entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO HEARING AIDS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to require health insurers and like entities to provide coverage for hearing aids.

Your Committee received written comments in support of this measure from the Disability and Communication Access Board, Maui County Office on Aging, AARP, Oahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawaii, and two individuals.

Your Committee received written comments on this measure from the Insurance Division of the Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, Department of the Attorney General, Hawaii Employer-Union Health Benefits Trust Fund, Kaiser Permanente, and Hawaii Medical Service Association.

Your Committee finds that some private health insurance plans provide partial coverage for hearing aids and that increased insurance coverage will provide a wider variety of hearing aids to individuals with hearing difficulties.

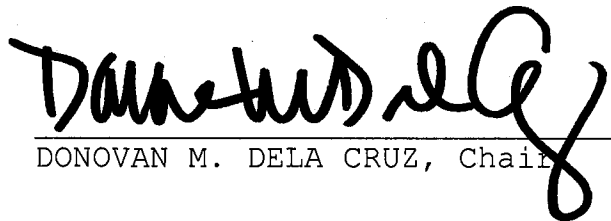


Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Deleting references to an employer option with regard to the required coverages under this measure;
- (2) Changing the effective date to July 1, 2050, to facilitate further discussion on the measure; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive changes for purposes of clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Ways and Means that is attached to this report, your Committee is in accord with the intent and purpose of S.B. No. 1027, S.D. 1, as amended herein, and recommends that it pass Third Reading in the form attached hereto as S.B. No. 1027, S.D. 2.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Ways and Means,




DONOVAN M. DELA CRUZ, Chair



The Senate
Thirtieth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Ways and Means
WAM

Bill / Resolution No.:* SB1027, SD1	Committee Referral: CPH, WAM	Date: 2/21/19		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
DELA CRUZ, Donovan M. (C)	X			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C. (VC)	X			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani				X
HARIMOTO, Breene				X
INOUYE, Lorraine R.	X			
KAHELE, Kaiali'i				X
KANUHA, Dru Mamo	X			
KIDANI, Michelle N.	X			
MORIWAKI, Sharon Y.	X			
RIVIERE, Gil				X
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.	X			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.	X			
FEVELLA, Kurt	X			
TOTAL	9			4
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes